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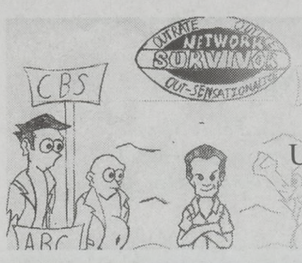


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# VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 65, ISSUE NO. 2 | SEPTEMBER 20, 2006 | IT'S *YOUR* NEWSPAPER

## Former Student's Death Brings Attention

BY WILL REYES
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Valley College has recently become an entertainment hot spot after it was discovered that Daniel Wayne Smith, the deceased son of actress Anna Nicole Smith, was a student here.

Smith, who died in the Bahamas on Sept. 10, attended classes at Valley for two semesters, beginning in summer 2006. His enrollment at Valley has brought out dozens of reporters from a large number of entertainment outlets, including Entertainment Tonight, US Weekly, In Touch Weekly, People and Star magazines and more.

The attention has largely focused on the press trying to find out more about the 20-year-old's personal life, such as which classes he took, what his major was, if he had friends at Valley and more.

Florentino Manzano, Valley's dean of student enrollment, would only confirm that Smith was a student and declined to give out any more personal information.

Smith's time at Valley was short, with him enrolling in a total of 26 units and completing 14. His courses ranged from economics, anthropology, math and philosophy to English.

With so many reporters on campus, students have been constantly asked if they knew Smith and some have even been interviewed just for seeing him walk by.

"I didn't know him," said student Christina Corigliano, who was interviewed by Entertainment Tonight. "But I saw him a few times going to class and I thought he was cute."

Daniel Smith

Smith's sudden death remains a mystery, after a second private autopsy ordered by his mother has still failed to reveal the cause. The independant autopsy was performed by forensic pathologist Cyril Wecht. Wecht is known for examining the deaths of Jon Benet Ramsey, Elvis Presly and others.

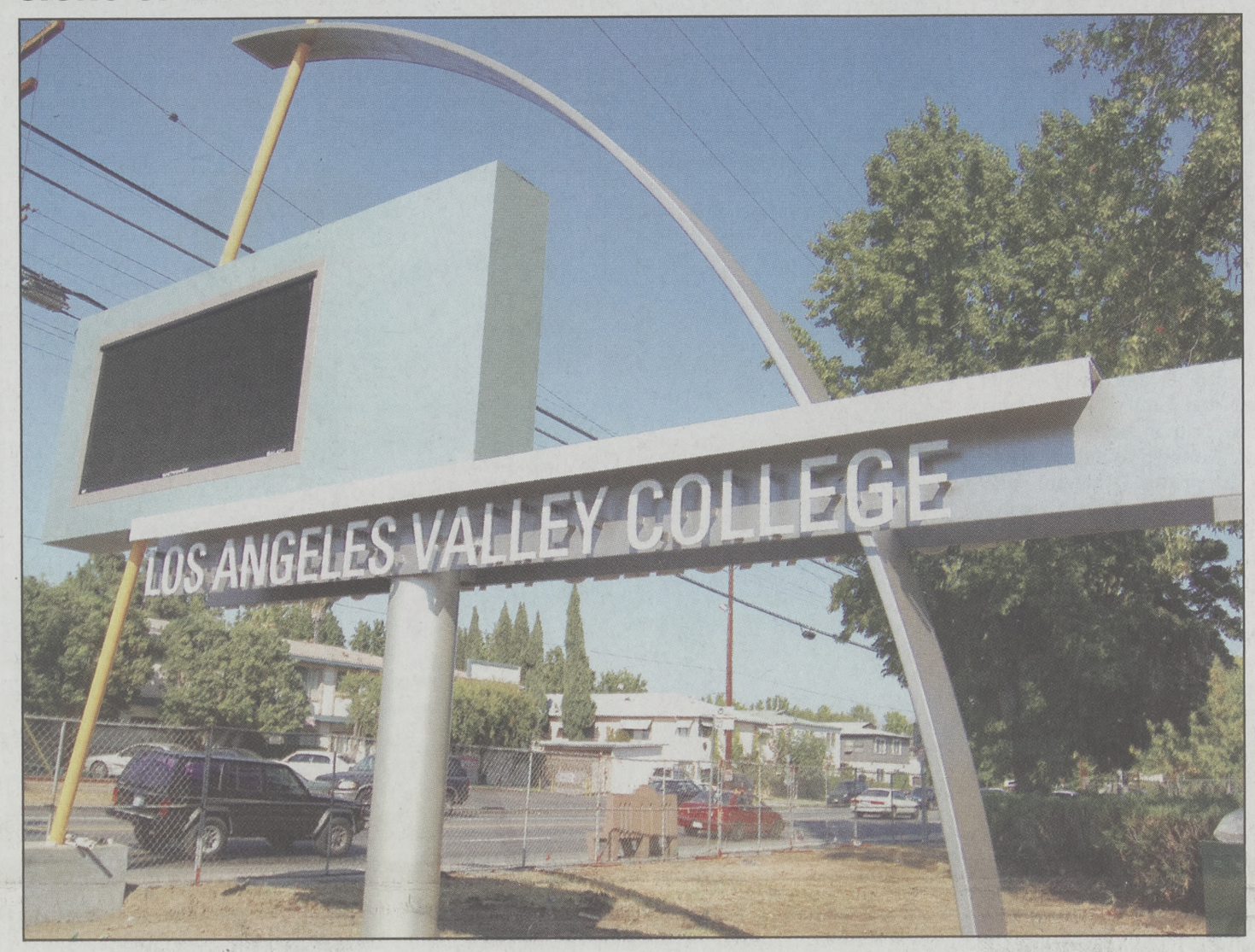
Both autopsies have ruled out foul play, but a natural cause has yet to be determined.

The family was in the Bahamas for the birth of Anna Nicole's daughter, who was born three days before the death of her brother.

Anna Nicole Smith gained popularity in 1992 as a model for Guess Jeans and then as the 1993 Playboy Playmate of the Year.

Smith played a role in two of his mother's movies, appearing in "Skyscraper" and "To The Limit."

**SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT**




DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR

**VALLEY'S NEW MARQUEE -** The new electronic sign on the corner of Oxnard Street and Fulton Avenue is one of the implemented improvements funded by Propositions A/AA money.

## Phones in Class Present Problems

BY JESSICA SHAFFER
STAFF WRITER

Cell phones have become such frequent class distractions on the Valley College campus that at least one instructor is taking matters into his own hands. Speech Teacher Joshua Miller gives students the option of loosing five points from their course grade or letting him answer the phone.

"The bottom line is not to distract," Miller said. "If somebody's speaking and they have to look over to the phone, [which is] on vibrate, that's going to be a problem. These days phones have [a] silent [feature]. If you have an emergency, you can put the phone right in front of you and just look down on it."

With the great innovations in technology in recent years, it has become increasingly common to see college students with cell phones and other gadgets on campus. Many Valley students and teachers have qualms about how the devices should be used.

"You see cell phones all the time, especially in the corridors," said Shaun Sanders, an English major. "I think that's really inappropriate. If you're going to make a call, do it outside."

Not all students believe that having a phone on during class

see *'Cell'* page 3

## Cadillac Grill off to Good Start at Valley

BY SCARLETT YINGVORAPANT
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

The Cadillac Grill opened its doors at the Valley College student cafeteria on Sept. 5, replacing the previous owner Deli, Depot and More.

Cadillac Grill's owner Kathy Refaely is in the process of signing a 5-year lease with Valley after campus administration made the decision to place the cafeteria up for bid after their 10-month contract with Deli, Depot and More expired this summer.

"I have heard nothing but compliments about the food, pricing, atmosphere, cleanliness, everything," said Raul Gonzalez, assistant vice president of administrative services and one of the main people in charge of handling the ownership change.

Refaely explained that she would like to be able to "serve everyone," citing variety, low prices, and her hand-picked staff as reasons for the cafeteria's newfound success. While her staff does consist of some students, she is mainly employing professionals including two chefs from high-end gourmet catering companies.

The ambitious changes that Refaely and her staff made are already clear. Although they have kept student favorites such as burgers and pizza, they have utilized areas of the cafeteria not previously used by adding a section for fresh baked goods and "hot specials" including rice, chicken, pasta, fish and other dishes. Upon discovery that many of the student body are vegetarian or simply health conscious, they are now also offering many vegetarian items, as well as prepacked and hand-tossed salads and fruit bowls. All of the items available are no more than $6 each, though most of the choices price around $3.

"There are good choices and lots of variation," said respiratory therapy student Elizabet Anguiano. "I can come and eat everyday here because I'm on a diet!"

Although Cadillac Grill has run into a few minor problems, such as not having access to credit card transactions on the first week of school, Refaely has worked to fix those issues and is already working on even more changes for the new year.

On Sept.18, the Sidewalk Cafe opened for business again and on Sept. 19, the cafeteria will be serving Starbucks coffee, including drip coffees, cappuccinos, and lattes. Refaely is hoping to introduce the popular ice blended Frappuchinos in the coming months. She is also "planning to bring a whole line of soft serve," as well as a variety of juices to balance the soda already in the cafeteria, all while redecorating the sitting area of the cafeteria itself to have more plant life and vegetation. She also plans to change the décor of the sitting area in the distant future.

"The only way this cafeteria will make it is if we have the support of the students, the teachers, and the faculty," said Rafaely. "If we have everyone's support, we can make wonders."

Rafaely has had more than 22 years of experience in the food

see *'Cafeteria'* page 3

## New Permits Meant to Reduce Crime

BY KRISTEN BECKER
STAFF WRITER

Valley College began issuing new sticker parking permits this semester to prevent theft and forgery. The new pass is a green sticker with a hologram and is currently required to park in all lots on campus. All vehicles not displaying a permit risk being ticketed.

"Changes were made [to the permits] to prevent forgery," said a deputy from the Valley Sheriff's Department. "Enough [instances of forged permits occurred] for us to worry." The hologram on the sticker is meant to make the pass more difficult to copy.

Theft was also a problem since the old hanging permits were easy to take down. "Permits were missing from students' cars," said Mary Ann Miller, a senior cashier in the Business Office. Unlucky students would return to their cars to find their pass missing and a ticket on their windshield.

Once the sticker is attached to the rearview mirror, theft will be more difficult. People who don't want to adhere the pass to the mirror can purchase a hanger from the bookstore instead.

Some students prefer the old parking pass because it was

see *'Parking'* page 3

**VALLEY PEOPLE**

## New ASU President Makes Big Plans

BY KHARA HUBERMAN
STAFF WRITER

Valley College's ASU president has shown she is a force to be reckoned with. Narine Jugharyan has made it her mission to build on the previous president's passion and energy.

"Education is most important for the students, but [student] events have their place, too," said Jugharyan, who first got involved on campus as Cultural Director of the Armenian Student Association. Now as ASU president she has made public relations one of her top priorities.

The 24-year-old economics major wanted to be president in order to improve her leadership skills. Jugharyan speaks Russian, Armenian, and English and is also minoring in political science. Perhaps this is why she plans on holding an international student event to encourage multicultural celebration and acceptance.

According to Jugharyan it's important to improve student life because "someone needs to stand up for the students."

The president has already won the hearts of her ASU board, who say she is dedicated, open-minded, and makes it a point to hear the board's input.

"[Jugharyan] has a lot of energy and good ideas," said Associate Dean of Student Services Dr. Sherri A. Rodriguez. "She's got the students' best interest in mind and in heart."



ALEX FAYVIL / VALLEY STAR

**MAKING HER MARK** - ASU President Narine Jugharyan hopes to help improve campus life.

Jugharyan, who has been in America for three years, said she was intrigued by ASU when she witnessed the success of their book exchange program.

**WE'RE NOT PSYCHIC**

*So tell us what's on your mind! Contact The Valley Star at thevalleystar@yahoo.com, drop by the newsroom at BJ114 or call us at (818) 947-2576. Letters should be limited to 300 words and may be edited for publication.*

**AN OPINION**

# Iran and Iraq: A Tangled Web

BY MARTIN RUIZ
STAFF WRITER

Much to the chagrin of the Bush administration, newly-elected Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki met with Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2006. They shook hands, hugged and even kissed.

Their religion, Islam, unites them more than Maliki's allegiance to Bush. "There is a religious brotherhood that transcends geo-political concerns," explained CNN news analyst Jack Cafferty, who went on to say, "This is a story that must make Bush wake up in a cold sweat at night. It's a nightmare."

A nightmare indeed. Just when we got rid of the "Butcher of Baghdad," Saddam Hussein, and propped up a "Beacon of Democracy" in Iraq by installing the democratically-elected leader, Maliki, could all our hopes for a peaceful Middle East be dashed?

Since the Iraq War began on March 19, 2003, we've spent almost $315 billion and lost 2,673 Americans. We were going in to stabilize the region, and now Iraq is getting cozy with Iran, our nuclear nemesis. We got rid of one dictator and replaced him with a weaker alternative inAl-Maliki who is bound to be dominated by Iran.

This could all backfire on us. On Oct. 27, 2005, Ahmadinejad said: "To those who doubt, to those who ask is it possible, or those who do not believe, I say accomplishment of a world without America and Israel is both possible and feasible." Israel is our strongest ally in the Middle East.

But why should we take such a short, funny-looking man so serious? Because Iran is "allegedly" building nuclear weapons. The U.N. threatened Ahmadinejad with an August 31 deadline to stop nuclear activity.

I'm sure he laughed in his bunker.

There's not much the U.N. can do. U.N. Secretary General Kofi Anan is incompetent. All he does is make idle threats. The U.N. scolded and threatened Saddam Hussein for 12 years, but only when the United States took action was he deposed. As it turns out, we never found those weapons of mass destruction. Does that mean he never had them? It's hard to say. But we can't take the risk that Iran is just bluffing.

So what happens next? Probably the same thing that happened in the early 1980s when the United States supported Iraq in order to defeat Iran. Now we've put the same guy in prison (Saddam) who we bolstered to power. Twelve years from now, will Maliki be sitting in prison for conspiring with Iran against the U.S.?

I was in favor of ousting Saddam. I'm glad he's on trial for genocide against his own people. But do Iraqis really appreciate what we've done for (and to) them? I'm starting to think you can't impose freedom on anyone…. Either they want it, or they don't.

If the Iraqis want us gone, perhaps it's time we "cut and run." Perhaps we should return to the pre-WWII policy of isolationism. Then, when World War III erupts in the Middle East, we can let them deal with the chaos on their own.

O, what a tangled web we've weaved!

**AN OPINION**

# New "Survivor" is Nothing to Start Wars Over

BY ANA KACZMAREK
NEWS EDITOR

There are certain things network television has tried to stay away from; and seriously confronting the issue of race has been the crown jewel of that list.

Perhaps it's because Americans are simply not interested in taking a long, hard look at their own racist tendencies. Most likely, it's for the reasons the new season of Survivor has so painstakingly learned when it divided Asian-Americans, Hispanics, Caucasians and African-Americans into four "tribes" by ethnicity for the Lost-style million dollar competition.

GM pulled their ads, the New York City Council called for the show to be cancelled before it even aired, and people across the country have been arguing about it over the water cooler for weeks. Note that everyone was in a huff simply on speculation; no one saw the show until its Sept. 14 premiere.

GM representatives said that the format of the show was not the reason for the pull. However, with their own sagging bottom line, it's no surprise they want to stay away from controversy.

On CBS's side, it is possibly the most brazen media stunt to raise plummeting ratings, which fell to just 16.6 million last year from 29.8 million in 2001. Even after all the buzz, the long running show drew its second lowest audience for a premiere – 18 million viewers – Thursday night.

Still others say the only serious aspect of the program is its foray into taboo territory.

"The participants will be held to the daunting and unfair challenge of representing an entire race of people," said Fernando Mateo of Hispanics Across America. "What will it mean for a team — a race – to fail in a battle of wits and strength against another race?"

I have faith in people. I may be wrong, but I'll bet that our nation is not so naive that they think five people on an island represent the sum total of an ethnic heritage.

ILLUSTRATION BY MAX EGOROV / VALLEY STAR

In fact, lets talk about who they do represent. With reality TV growing in its scope, wanna-be actors throughout the world have reveled in their 15 minutes of shame in the endless slew of unwatchable-yet-morbidly-fascinating concept-shows.

We all know of someone who's been on reality TV and it's pretty likely they regret it. They come back after the show has aired and gripe, "The producers told me to do that. They misrepresented me."

Can you say, "Duh?"

Reality television has nothing to do with reality. In fact, with the media flood waters rising around Survivor: Cook Islands, you can bet top dollar that the editors are cutting away furiously (all but the last episode has been taped) to make the "social experiment" shine with stereotype-less redemption.

As contrived as it may seem, Survivor should be commended for bringing a larger group of ethnicities to the screen. This is probably the most ethnically diverse group of people ever paraded in front of Americans on TV, not including Miss Universe, of course.

However, this is not a battle to see which race is superior to the others. It's a group of people looking to get rich quickly, who might also not mind eating bugs or being made to look like a jerk in front of millions of people.

A clear indicator that inter-tribe relations would take precedent as the focus of the show was a clashing of tradition vs. modernity that happened in the Asian-American "Puka"tribe.

Vietnamese-born self-described hippy Cao Boi quickly pointed out, "I never fit into the Asian community. I didn't fit the stereotype." He then proceeded to eliminate tribe member Brad's headache by "taking the wind out" of him. Brad, a fashion designer and former model, seemed embarrassed in front of the others as a red mark appeared on his temple and they laughed at Cao Boi's "odd" behavior.

And so the fears of representation come to light. There is no homogenous community in any of these groups: on the show or in real life. There will be conflict within groups, with outside groups, and with people's own performance as the remaining 19 contestants fight for a chance at one million dollars. That's the concept of the show and it hasn't changed.

It's simply not a litmus test for racial relations in the country. Maybe critics are just afraid to be represented by the kind of people who would actually go on "Survivor."

**AN OPINION**

# Popular Blogging Sites Invade Our Space

■ As blogging tools and social networking websites become more popular they are taking liberties that put students at risk.

BY SCARLETT YINGVORAPANT
STAFF WRITER

Forget what you have heard about the dangers of the Internet. Forget hackers, forget stalkers, forget child molesters.

The Internet moguls responsible for the blogging, media, and social networks that have become increasingly popular over the last few years could be the ones invading your privacy and taking away your rights.

Many controversies and criticisms have surfaced, challenging the ethics and practices of these sites – Myspace, Facebook, YouTube, Livejournal – which have now practically become household names.

The most recent complaint is over the introduction of the Facebook's "News Feed." Facebook is a social networking tool with the claim to fame that until this point it has been a student-only networking tool since 20-year-old computer programmer Mark Zuckerberg founded it in 2004.

The Facebook News Feed tracks changes, updates, and events on user's profiles and displays them on the feeds of people in their social network. Everything from changes in relationship status to parties users in your network are attending are displayed at a moment's notice.

Students around the world were so enraged by this new step taken by Facebook that many petitions were created and many angry letters were sent to Zuckerberg, causing him to send a Facebook-wide message addressing the concerns of the students and devising a way for them to remove themselves and their activities from the feed.

Another complaint is that companies are finding ways to view students' Facebooks, Myspaces and blogs, sifting through them and using the information that they gather to make hiring or firing decisions.

***There have also been accounts where employers fire employees who they feel are ruining the reputation of their business simply by complaining about a rough day at work on a blog.***

Although these sites have options to allow profiles and journals to be viewable strictly to friends, these companies often times create fake accounts or use the accounts of existing employees who are in certain social networks to view accounts, which may have pictures or text that leave a bad impression.

There have also been accounts where employers fire employees who they feel are ruining the reputation of their business simply by complaining about a rough day at work on a blog.

Video blogs and other types of media outlets on the Internet are also infringing on your privacy as rights.

The popular video hosting and viewing Website YouTube, the slogan of which is "Broadcast Yourself," launched in 2005 and is home to hundreds of millions of clips, many of which are creative works by budding amateur producers and actors.

According to the Terms of Service provided by YouTube, Inc., "... by submitting the User Submissions to YouTube, you hereby grant YouTube a worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free, sublicenseable and transferable license" to use and reproduce the video. The terms continue, explaining that these rights will extend to "the YouTube Website and YouTube's (and its successor's)."

In layman's terms, YouTube, and any company that decides to purchase it or partner with it, is legally allowed to do whatever they choose, whenever they choose, with whichever videos they choose.

With the amount of money it takes to maintain YouTube's bandwidth costs and keep videos running, some are afraid that the ownership of YouTube will change hands with big name media companies (such as Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation's purchase of Myspace), thus giving them the rights to the user's clips and the ability to use those works in anything from movies to commercials without credit to the creator.

Although YouTube has recently added an addendum to that section of the Terms of Service stating that the creators will still have "creative ownership," their legal rights over the distribution and usage remains the same.

As long as Websites such as YouTube continue to have an unclear definition of the ownership of uploaded material and Websites such as Facebook continue to create unnecessary scripts for users and employers to monitor social network activity, students must be more aware of what messages, personal information, photographs, and videos they upload to the Internet.

**AN OPINION**

# Indecent Exposure

BY KRISTEN BECKER
STAFF WRITER

There is an epidemic of wardrobe malfunctions sweeping across Hollywood.

Ever since Janet Jackson's infamous halftime show at the Super Bowl in 2004, accidental peep shows have been on the rise among young celebrities; or, maybe they're just receiving more attention. Regardless of the reason why, celebrity gossip blogs such as perezhilton.com and pinkisthenewblog.com are full of pictures of various young starlets with their breasts and more exposed.

In the first two weeks of this month, Lindsay Lohan has been photographed twice with her private parts exposed. Paris Hilton has shown the public similar views too many times to count, including at least one this past summer. Even a more demure celebrity like Kiera Knightly was photographed this summer with her breast exposed.

***Ever since Janet Jackson's infamous halftime show at the Super Bowl 2004, accidental peep shows have been on the rise among young celebrites or, maybe they're just receiving more attention.***

I certainly don't condone paparazzi stalking stars photographing them in compromising situations. That being said, this antagonistic relationship between celebrities and photographers is certainly nothing new. Knowing that every move they make will most certainly be photographed from every angle should be enough to remind a young woman to dress appropriately and save herself the embarrassment of having her most private parts on view for all to see.

Perhaps it is time to give the young women in Hollywood a tutorial on how to wear clothing properly.

If you are wearing a low cut dress, I've heard that double-sided tape does wonders for keeping everything in place. Apparently, toupee tape is quite useful.

If it can keep the heads of follicle challenged men covered, it should be up to the challenge of keeping our stars adequately covered. When you are wearing a short skirt or dress, it is probably a good idea to wear something under it.

I don't care how much publicity a celebrity gets for these incidents of inadequate clothing, it's not something a woman should want to be known for.

So, please ladies, when you are getting ready for a red carpet event, look in the mirror or have someone check to make sure that everything that should be covered is.

**WE'RE NOT PSYCHIC!**
So tell us what's on your mind! Contact The Valley Star at thevalleystar@yahoo.com,
drop by the newsroom at BJ114 or call us at (818) 947-2576.

## 'Cafeteria'

*continued from page 1*

service industry. Outside of the Cadillac Grill, she is currently the owner of the Foster's Freeze franchise on Reseda Blvd. and was formerly the owner of the Golden Croissant, a bakery that catered the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Check out the Valley Star online at:

**www.lavalleystar.com**

## 'Parking'

*continued from page 1*

more convenient. "I like the idea of the other one," said undeclared major Jessica Schofield. "You can take it off and put it in your glove compartment,"

There are other options for students who want to park off campus, including street parking and taking public transportation to school. "I don't feel like paying $20 when I can park for free [on the street]," said sound engineering major Mario Guadaron.

The Business Office has sold approximately 7,200 passes this semester. There is no limit to the number of parking permits available for sale because students arrive on campus at different times of the day and parking availability is not seen as an issue.

Permits can be purchased for $20 in the Business Office, next to the bookstore. The permit is valid in lots A, B, C, D, E and G.

## 'Cell'

*continued from page 1*

time causes a problem, especially when it's set to vibrate. "As long as they keep [the phone] at a non-disruptive level so that no one else knows, I think it should be ok," said Prince Prabhakar, an undeclared major.

According to the Federal Communications Commission about 61 percent of 18 to 24 year olds have cell phones, with the telephone being the first choice for college students' social interactions.

Numerous syllabi state that electronic devices must be turned off during class, since cell phones and other technology disrupt teaching and have been used for cheating. Students have text-messaged answers or taken pictures of the exams with camera phones.

When asked why she had such a strict policy on cell phones, Assistant Professor of Earth Science Jacquelyn Hams said, "They're not the majority, but we have caught a few students cheating. And not just cell phones, but electronic dictionaries, [too]."

Although professors and students have some conflicting views on cell phones, they agree that when a student comes into a class, their technology should not be heard.

Business major Dilyara Risbaeva drew the line at having her phone answered by a teacher. "I think it's not okay," she said. "I think if the cell phone does ring the student should turn it off, and if it is an emergency they should go outside."

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For more information or application assistance please visit:
Michael Flores at the Cooperative Education Center
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jackassmovie.com

**WARNING: The stunts in this movie were performed by professionals, so neither you nor your dumb little buddies should attempt anything from this movie.**

**in theatres september 22**

# VALLEY LIFE

## WEDNESDAY TO TUESDAY

**Wednesday, September 20**

**Weatherman Fritz Coleman** performs his solo show "Tonight at 11!" 4252 Riverside Dr., Burbank 8 p.m.

**Thursday, September 21**

**Taste of Downtown Burbank** will offer live music and samples of more than 30 local restaurants. Orange Grove & Magnolia; 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

**America's Funnies Comedians** The Ha Ha Cafe North Hollywood, CA; 9 p.m.

**Friday, September 22**

**Mexican Chocolate Evening** at Casa de Sousa. 19 Olvera St., Los Angeles. 7 p.m. $32

**Saturday, September 23**

**Dine at an interactive Sopranos' spoof** at the Sportsmen's Lodge. Includes a show and dinner buffet. 12825 Ventura Blvd, Studio City; 7:30 p.m. $49.50

**Sunday, September 24**

**American Idol finalist LaToya London** heads the cast of 60s musical "Beehive." The El Portal Theatre. 5267 Lankershim Blvd, North Hollywood; 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.

**Monday, September 25**

**Pro Blues Jam** at Cozy's Bar & Grill. 14058 Ventura Blvd, Sherman Oaks.

**Tuesday, September 26**

**Free poetry reading** and music. 12131 Ventura Blvd, Sherman Oaks. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Career/Transfer Center**

**Wednesday, September 20**

UCLA Representative
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
UC Financial Aid Representative
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Monday, September 25**

Undecided Majors/Career Workshop 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday September 26**

CSUN Representative
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
CSU Application Workshop
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
UC Santa Cruz Representative
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 27**

UC Irvine Representative
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
CSU Los Angeles Representative
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Friday, September 29**

UC San Diego Representative
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
UC Davis Transfer Admission Agreements Due

**All activities in Career/ Transfer Center (adm. 126) (818) 947-2646**

# HIV Awareness

■ Student Health Center is planning an HIV Awareness Week on campus.

BY ELEARY NIXON
STAFF WRITER

With at least half of the 40,000 Americans newly infected with HIV each year under the age of 25, sexual awareness is a very important issue for Valley College students.

Roughly two young Americans become infected with HIV every hour of every day. HIV does not discriminate, so whether you are heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual; practicing unprotected sex leaves you at risk of contracting HIV, the virus which causes AIDS.

A person who has HIV carries the virus in body fluid, including blood, semen, vaginal secretions and breast milk. According to www.amfar.org, the virus can invade your body through breaks in the skin, such as cuts or sores or through sexual contact.

Since HIV/AIDS is a pandemic, a trip to the Valley Student Health Center gives Valley students some important information about HIV awareness. The Health Center, in the North Gym, is the big red-brick building behind the tennis courts, just to the right of the baseball field.

Physician Assistant Sonia B. Nodal has been with the campus Health Center for three years. She's planned an annual HIV Awareness week at Valley; which is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 2006. Nodal said that besides HIV Awareness week, HIV testing is available at the Health Center for a charge of $13, but that not many students come by for HIV testing. Although there are more than 15,000 students on campus, only around 50 students were tested on campus last year.

"That is why we have the HIV Awareness Week," said Nodal. "To bring students in and conduct anonymous testing."

The Tarzana Treatment Center also helps promote HIV Awareness Week by providing HIV testing trucks at Valley. Students can receive anonymous testing, education and information and counseling.

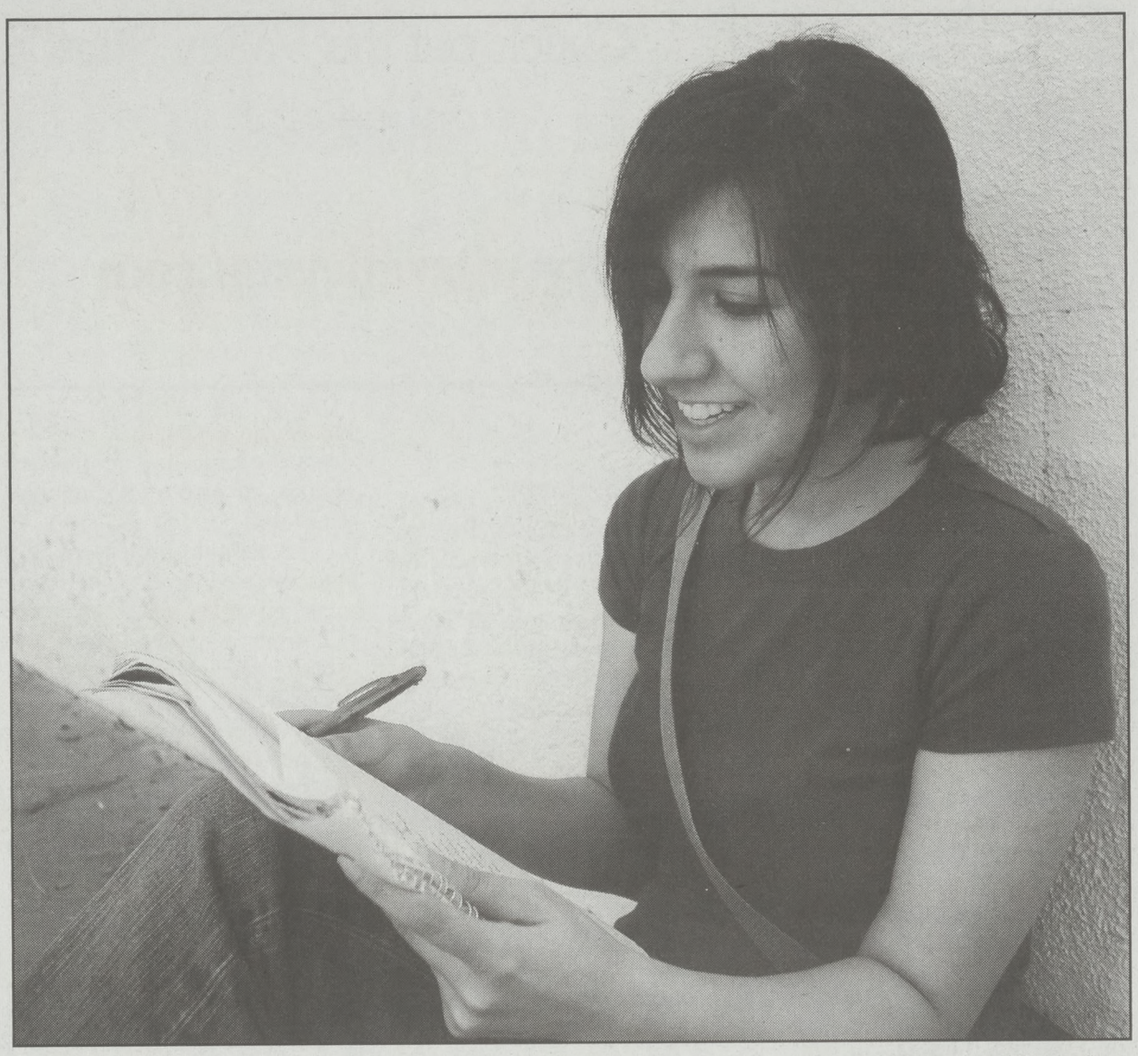
Nodal says many people lack education when it comes to sex; such as sex acts like oral sex providing a chance of contracting HIV.

"Too many young people between the ages of 18 and 24 think they are invincible to contracting HIV," said Nodal. "So they don't get tested."

Education and assistance are vital for sexually active students, especially with hopes of a safe, effective and affordable AIDS vaccine on the horizon in the next decade. Many medications are now available to people who have tested positive and their lives can be prolonged. Nodal said awareness is a key to health.

"You only have one body," said Nodal. "So take care of it, because no one else will!"

The Health Center is open Monday through Friday. For a full schedule of the hours of operation or more information call (818) 947-2918.



DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR

**Making A List, Checking It Twice -** Julianne Zuccardi, a biology major and president of the L.A City Explorers Club, looks over her final list of potentials for the club's weekly outdoor movie night, hosted in the main quad of Valley College.

**CD REVIEW**

# Justin Tries to Sell Sex

**Justin Timberlake "Futuresex/Love Sounds"**

★★★ out of 5

BY ELEARY NIXON
STAFF WRITER

He's bringing 'Sexy Back,' yet Justin Timberlake's highly-anticipated sophomore album "Futuresex/Lovesounds" may lead you to the store taking his album back!

After the group 'N'SYNC' disbanded, Justin embarked upon a solo career; his 2002 freshman album "Justified" amassed millions in sales, critical acclaim, and a sold out tour. So after nearly four years of waiting, Justin's latest project fails in comparison to his previous, leaving one question: "Why?"

**"Futuresex/ Lovesounds"...is a whole lot of Justin Timberlake singing about sex over an entirety of loud musical sounds.**

Well, that may or may not be so easy to answer. Superproducer Timbaland produced ten of the albums 12 tracks and, in classic Timbaland style, created tons of beats and overlapping instrumentals; which this time around, may have been too much for Justin to cope with.

This may be due to Justin's transformation from a young wannabe Michael Jackson into this young GQ-type Moby with the buttock-exposing finesse of Prince. All this may have been too much at one time for Justin's persona, and listeners; as some people are saying the album provides little of Justin's personality.

What you will notice, however, is that the two current hits 'Sexy Back' and 'My Love' will have you swaying in your seats wanting more. Unfortunately, you will have to wait until the last three tracks before Justin gives you his classy ballads, and flossy falsetto, having the ladies swooning all over him much like they did from his first album's hit song 'Cry Me A River.'

So what is wrong with the other tracks? Simple. The middle songs, which are supposed to mend the record into completion, don't. Sadly, those songs linger on leaving the listener having to wake out of a deep trance, not remembering any of the words they just heard. Although the song 'What Goes Around Comes Around,' should be a commercial success if released, most of the songs are just simply flat.

Some Justin fans are saying he is "changing" the sound of music, but all this album does is overkill your eardrums with some hard-beat tracks and as a consequence creates a disconnect from the artist.

"Futuresex/Lovesounds" only provides what the title reads, and that is a whole lot of Justin Timberlake singing about sex over an entirety of loud musical sounds.

Although this album provides next to no lyrical creativity, and minimal genuine potential hits, the loyalty of Justin Timberlake fans will surely propel this musical endeavor to platinum status with radio stations receiving album request after album request.

**FIRST PERSON**

# Democrats Sing Anti-War Song For "The U.S. vs. John Lennon"

■ Local Democratic Club screens "The U.S. vs. John Lennon" to inspire electorate emotions

BY ANA KACZMAREK
NEWS EDITOR

Democrats filled a theatre at the Sherman Oaks Galleria Pacific Theaters Sept. 11 to celebrate John Lennon's legacy of peace and watch the new documentary about his political life, *The U.S. vs. John Lennon*.

Organized by Valley Grassroots for Democracy, a progressive San Fernando Valley Democratic club focused on active participation in elections, the event also featured a post-film conversation with Lennon-historian Jon Weiner. Weiner consulted on the film as he has written two books on Lennon's life and has successfully sued the FBI for their records on the musician.

The documentary feature is a collage of high-profile interviews, historical footage, photos and songs woven together to tell the story of how Lennon ended up on the U.S. Government's enemy list. His highly visible anti-war activities are shown to be the catalyst for his attempted deportation from the United States in 1972.

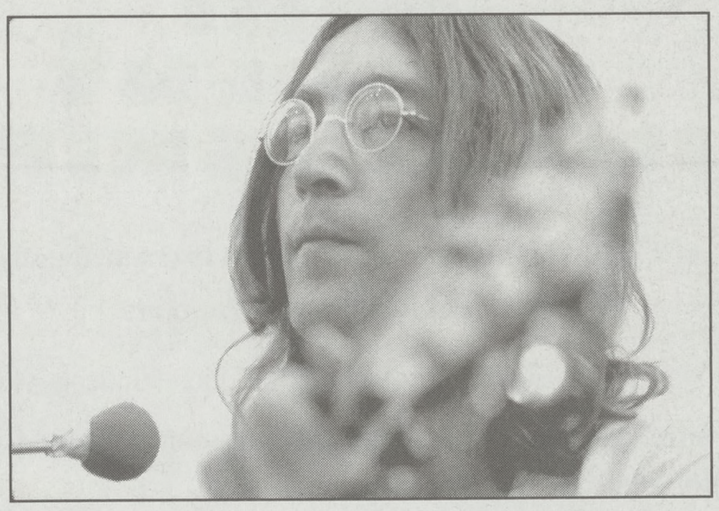
Weiner is interviewed in the film, along with icons from the 60s and 70s George McGovern, Angela Davis, Gore Vidal, Bobby Seale, Yoko Ono and others. "Certainly someone who sings about love is a threat to someone who wants death," says Vidal about why Lennon was a government target. "Mr. Nixon and Mr. Bush represent death," he adds.

The film was screened with the permission of Lion's Gate Films and obtained by Vice President Peter Rothenberg. He expected the parallels shown in the movie between the Nixon administration and current U.S. foreign policy to stir audience members into action.

"We put this on with the idea that the movie can get people emotional when they see the same thing happening again," Rothenberg explained, hoping the film would get people to ask, "How long is this going to go on?"

Visually dynamic, *The U.S. vs. John Lennon* chronicles Lennon's journey from megawatt super star as a mop-topped Beatle to outspoken war critic and self-described "peacenik."

Historical footage shows him criticizing government leaders and their motives. "Our society is run by insane people for insane objectives," Lennon says. "I think we're being run by maniacs for maniacal ends and I think I'm liable to be put away as insane for expressing that. That's what's insane about it."



COURTESY OF ETHAN RUSSELL

The film focuses on the heightened state of paranoia in the U.S. government during the Vietnam era and the civil rights violations performed by the FBI under J. Edgar Hoover. It also highlights similarities between government policies then and now.

As the protest culture emerged in full force in the 1960s, Lennon's hold on the youth of America was an apparent threat to the U.S. Government as they sought ways to intimidate him. Insightful commentaries from former Nixon Administration officials, activists, and historians shed light on how Lennon's anti-war stance threatened already powerful men.

Although Lennon was not successfully deported and won his case against the various government offices that attempted that end, the film points out that his activism was curtailed by his fear of government retribution.

"Time wounds all heels," was Lennon's smiling response to why he was refraining from publicly criticizing government officials. His comment proved to be clairvoyant, as Nixon resigned his presidency not much after due to the Watergate scandal.

"Where is our John Lennon?" quoted Weiner, recalling young adults' reaction to the film at previous screenings.

Weiner discussed Lennon's part in the peace movement, saying, "He didn't want to be the leader of a new revolutionary government; he wanted everyone to do their part. He was just sort of setting the example of what we can do to end the war."

When asked what Lennon would say about the current war situation, Weiner replied, "War is over, if you want it." He added, "I think everybody wants it, they just have to get up and do something."

Rothenberg also noted the parallels between the Nixon and Bush administrations, urging those present to register as absentee voters, help people register and to volunteer for campaigns. "If we switch the Congress, we'll win the war," Rothenberg said of turning the House of Representatives blue this November.

*The U.S. vs. John Lennon* opens Sept. 15 in limited release and nationwide Sept. 29.

ALEX FAYVIL / VALLEY STAR

**WITH PRIDE** - Kathy Refaely means business at the Cadillac Grill.

# Valley Short on Advice

BY JESSICA SHAFFER
STAFF WRITER

When Valley College students have an academic problem they know they can go to the Counseling Department to get help. However, the department, located in the Administration Building, is understaffed and many students have to wait in long lines before they can get the help they need.

With an average of 8.3 counselors available for the approximately 17,000 students attending Valley, a 2004 survey revealed that about 90 percent of students thought the quality of the counseling was excellent. Yet the same survey cited a deficiency in career planning services based on staff shortage.

"We have a lot of students coming in right before school starts where we clearly don't have enough counselors for all of the students who want to see us," said Counselor Fay Dea. "It can be frustrating on both sides. The students have long waits; we're rushing through trying to see as many students as we have."

Counselors are available by appointment or on a walk-in basis, offering largely academic and transfer advisement; with very limited personal counseling.

"Most of my problem was about my schedule," said Semyen Leypynoe, an engineering major. "They let me know which classes to take,"

Last year the Counseling Department saw 10,633 students, almost two-thirds of the student population. Enrollment has risen about 8 percent since then due to an effort by the college to raise attendance, which would seem to compound the department's problems.

"It's quite busy. [They should] hire more counselors," Leypynoe said.

Though the department is significantly understaffed, Chair Bruce Thomas says that there are other departments in as bad or worse situations.

"Given what we do, we could benefit from additional staff, as could other departments," said Thomas. "There's only so much money to go around so it's always [allocated] to those in dire need." He noted the department is interviewing for a long-term sub to help.

The Counseling Department is working to accommodate all interested students. According to Dea, it's best to schedule an appointment after the third week of the semester.

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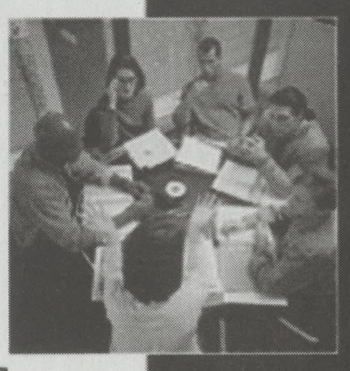

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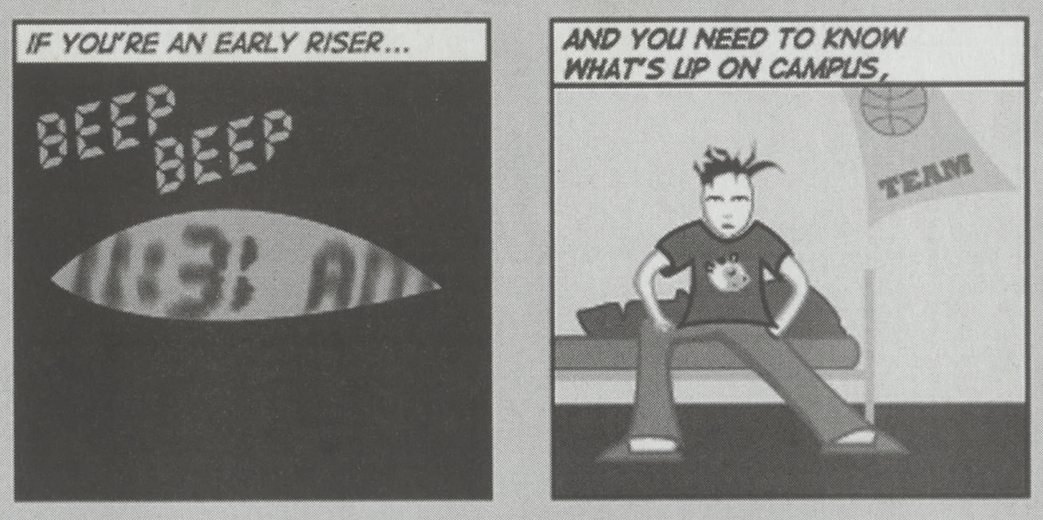
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## LAVC SCHEDULE

**Wednesday 9/20/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Thursday 9/21/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Friday 9/22/06**
Women's Soccer
@ Oxnard
4 p.m.

Women's Water Polo Invitational
@ Mt. SAC
TBA

**Saturday 9/23/06**
Football
@ Bakersfield
7 p.m.

Women's Water Polo Invitational
@ Mt. SAC
TBA

Men's Water Polo
@ Loyola Marymount U.
11 a.m.

Golden West Invitational
Cross Country @ Huntington Beach
11:30 a.m.

**Sunday 9/24/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Monday 9/25/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Tuesday 9/26/06**
Women's Soccer
@ Santa Monica
4 p.m.

**Wednesday 9/27/06**
Women's Water Polo
@ College of the Canyons
3:30pm

**Thursday 9/28/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Friday 9/29/06**
Football @ Ventura 7p.m.

Women's Soccer
@ College of the Canyons
4p.m.

Bakersfield Invitational
Cross Country
@ Bakersfield
3 p.m.

**Saturday 9/30/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Sunday 10/1/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Monday 10/2/06**
No Scheduled Games

**Tuesday 10/3/06**
Women's Soccer
@ Pierce
4p.m.

**Wednesday 10/4/06**
Women's Water Polo
@ Santa Monica College
4:30 p.m.

Men's Water Polo
@ Santa Monica
3p.m.

**For more sport photos and stories, please visit www.lavalleystar.com**

WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Bulldogs Take a Bite Out of Monarchs

■ Valley's women use home game against Hancock College to prepare for conference play.

BY TONY SILVA
STAFF WRITER

The Valley College Women's soccer team lost 3-2 at home Friday against Hancock College, in what was one of many preseason matches preparing them for their conference games.

The game was very physical for the most part, played very evenly by both teams, and one that could have ended on a more positive note for the lady Monarchs

"We didn't take advantage of our many opportunities to at least equalize the game," said Coach Erick Archila. "It really hurts to lose like this at home, coming in so close to a tie and possibly even a victory, but right now I'm more concerned about the upcoming games, which are much more important than tonight's game."

Despite the loss, Archila said he feels he has a talented team of ladies who just need to work better as a unit.

"Our attacking players are great, its no wonder we've been able to score more than 8 goals in the past 2 to 3 games," said Archila. "We need to work on our defense a little more though."

Midfielder Michelle Escamilla, a veteran from last year and a key member of the team agrees that the team will improve with unity.

> ***"Our Defense needs to improve on understanding each other a little better so that they can hold to some victories and put ourselves in a position where we can win a conference title at least."***
>
> *- Talia Torres No. 23*

"Alot of the players on this team are new this year, so we're still getting to know each other," said Escamilla. "Once we do find our rhythm and find what each player can bring to the table, we should be just fine when we play our conference games."

One of the new members of the team this year is Freshman Talia Torres, who has been starting the past couple of games and has given some outstanding performances.

"We've been doing great as far as the whole team goes, we just need to improve on getting to know each other more and work as a team better," said Torres. "Our Defense needs to improve on understanding each other a little better so that they can hold to some victories and put ourselves in a position where we can win a conference title at least."

The Monarchs' next game will be against the Oxnard College Condors 4 p.m. Friday at Oxnard.

DANIEL KANE / VALLEY STAR

**HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION -** Monarch Talia Torres makes athletic play on ball during yesterday's soccer match against the Allan Hancock Bulldogs. At press time, the outcome of the game was undecided.

## FOOTBALL

ALEX FAYVIL / VALLEY STAR

**HEADS UP -** The Valley College Monarchs fell 56-37 to the Moorpark Raiders this past Saturday, despite six turnovers. The Monarchs will attmept to win its second game of the season Saturday against the Bakersfield College Renegades at Baskersfield.

## *This Week in Valley College Sports History*

*In keeping with the impending Valley College Sports Hall of Fame inaugaration, the Valley Star will regularly feature a "moment" in the storied history of Monarch sports.*

On Saturday, Sept. 18, 1976, the Monarch football team, coming off a championship season, defeated West Los Angeles College 32-6 at Monarch Field. Freshman kicker Brad Cicotti was the star of the game will four field goals.

"The outcome of the game was a cobination of our defensive strength and West L.A.'s poor play and mistakes," said Monarch football Head Coach John Becker. "Sticking out as exectional in our defense were Tony Kippes, Joe Tumpich and John Phillips."

MOVIE REVIEW

# The Rock's New Film Hits the Gridiron Running

**"Gridiron Gang"**
Sony Pictures/Columbia
★★★★★ out of 5

BY TONY SILVA
STAFF WRITER

The latest movie from action star "The Rock," the impressive football-influenced "Gridiron Gang," scored big at the box office this weekend with a first-place opening. The film was shot in parts of Los Angeles, including many scenes at Valley College,

Based on the true story of juvenile detention camp probation officer Sean Porter (Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson), the movie is an inspirational look into how determination can help change lives for a group of rough kids.

Frustrated by the high-percentage relapse rate of the teen-age felons, Porter feels responsible for the young men at Camp Kilpatrick. The movie focuses on Porter, a former college football star who comes up with the idea to form a football team at the camp. The genuine story line is a great reason to watch "Gridiron," especially since its something that hasn't been seen in recent years.

Firmly believing that football will teach these young inmates what it takes to be responsible and show them how to be winners for the first time in their lives, Porter teams up with fellow probation officer Malcolm Moore (Xzibit), to coach the team.

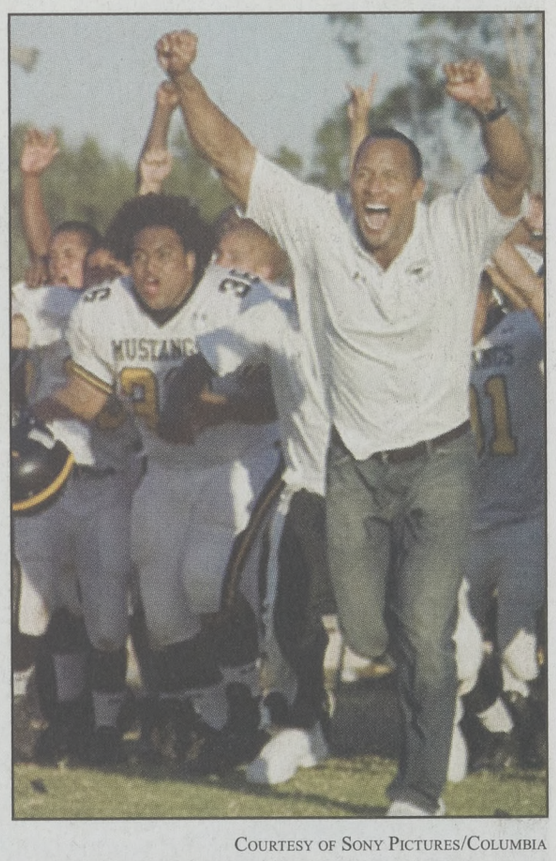
> **... "Gridiron" is one intense and realistic look into the lives of the movie's characters ...**

The Rock and Xzibit do an excellent job of portraying the obstacles both officers have to overcome in the movie, including doubts from their skeptical bosses and the objections of coaches at rival high schools, who don't want their players mixing it up with convicted criminals on the football field.

During the course of the movie the juveniles must learn discipline and also give up their gang rivalries on the football field, or "the Gridiron" as Coach Porter refers to it, to unite as a team. The movie does a great job of showing the success the players can achieve with the hard work and discipline Coach Porter instilled in them.

Judging from all the commercials and promotions the movie has had so far you may think that this is just another coming-of-age football movie, but the truth is "Gridiron" is one intense and realistic look into the lives of the movie's characters, who are based on the actual players from Camp Kilpatrick.

This movie also features The Rock in the performance of his career. His portrayal of Coach Porter, who changed the kids' lives by showing them a better path, was right on point. From the tough side needed for the troubled teenagers, to the more human side seen when Porter faces challenges in his personal life, Johnson's acting and the movie were just great.



COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES/COLUMBIA